

## Claims

What is claimed is:

- [c1] A method for obtaining nuclear magnetic resonance measurements, comprising:  
inducing a static magnetic field in a fluid sample;  
applying an oscillating magnetic field to the fluid sample according to a preparation pulse sequence that comprises a J-edit pulse sequence for developing J modulation; and  
acquiring the nuclear magnetic resonance measurements using a detection sequence, wherein the detection sequence comprises at least one 180-degree pulse.
- [c2] The method of claim 1, wherein the J modulation is based on a heteronuclear coupling.
- [c3] The method of claim 2, wherein the heteronuclear coupling is carbon-proton coupling.
- [c4] The method of claim 3, wherein the J-edit pulse sequence includes a variable delay and the applying and the acquiring are performed a plurality of times to provide a plurality of nuclear magnetic resonance measurements each with a different value for the variable delay.
- [c5] The method of claim 4, further comprising analyzing amplitudes of the plurality of nuclear magnetic resonance measurements as a function of the variable delay to provide J coupling information or relative abundance of carbon groups.
- [c6] The method of claim 5, wherein the analyzing comprises solving a set of linear equations or performing a Fourier transformation.
- [c7] The method of claim 5, further comprising determining types of hydrocarbons present in the fluid sample.
- [c8] The method of claim 4, further comprising analyzing amplitudes of the plurality of nuclear magnetic resonance measurements to derive a composition of the fluid sample, wherein the analyzing is performed using a basis set of measurements obtained with standard samples having known compositions.

- [c9] The method of claim 4, further comprising deriving a J-modulation curve describing amplitudes of the plurality of nuclear magnetic resonance measurements as a function of the variable delay; and comparing the J-modulation curve with a basis set of standard J-modulation curves to derive a composition of the fluid sample, wherein the basis set of the standard J-modulation curves are obtained with standard samples having known compositions.
- [c10] The method of claim 1, wherein the fluid sample is located in an earth formation.
- [c11] The method of claim 1, wherein the fluid sample is removed from an earth formation by a formation tester.
- [c12] The method of claim 4, wherein the nuclear magnetic resonance measurements comprise proton signals.
- [c13] The method of claim 4, wherein the nuclear magnetic resonance measurements comprise carbon signals.
- [c14] The method of claim 1, wherein the preparation pulse sequence further comprises a signal enhancement pulse sequence.
- [c15] The method of claim 14, wherein the signal enhancement pulse sequence is a nuclear Overhauser enhancement pulse sequence or a magnetization transfer pulse sequence.
- [c16] The method of claim 1, wherein the J-edit pulse sequence includes a gated-decoupling pulse.
- [c17] A method for characterizing formation fluids, comprising:
  - disposing a nuclear magnetic resonance instrument in a borehole;
  - inducing a static magnetic field in a fluid sample in a region of interest;
  - applying an oscillating magnetic field to the fluid sample according to a preparation pulse sequence that comprises a J-edit pulse sequence for developing J modulation; and
  - acquiring nuclear magnetic resonance measurements using a detection sequence, wherein the detection sequence comprises at least one 180-degree pulse.

- [c18] The method of claim 17, wherein the region of interest is in an earth formation.
- [c19] The method of claim 17, wherein the region of interest is inside the nuclear magnetic resonance instrument.
- [c20] The method of claim 17, wherein the J-edit pulse sequence includes a variable delay and the applying and the acquiring are performed a plurality of times to provide a plurality of nuclear magnetic resonance measurements each with a different value for the variable delay.
- [c21] The method of claim 20, further comprising analyzing amplitudes of the plurality of nuclear magnetic resonance measurements as a function of the variable delay to provide J coupling information or relative abundance of carbon groups.
- [c22] The method of claim 21, further comprising determining hydrocarbon types in the fluid sample.
- [c23] The method of claim 20, further comprising analyzing amplitudes of the plurality of nuclear magnetic resonance measurements to derive a composition of the fluid sample, wherein the analyzing is performed using a basis set of measurements obtained with standard samples having known compositions.
- [c24] The method of claim 20, further comprising deriving a J-modulation curve describing amplitudes of the plurality of nuclear magnetic resonance measurements as a function of the variable delay; and comparing the J-modulation curve with a basis set of standard J-modulation curves to derive a composition of the fluid sample, wherein the basis set of the standard J-modulation curves are obtained with standard samples having known compositions.
- [c25] A method for determining an oil-to-water ratio in a fluid sample, comprising:  
obtaining a nuclear magnetic resonance data set representing protons attached to carbon-13 in the fluid sample;

deriving a hydrocarbon content from the nuclear magnetic resonance data set, taking into account a natural abundance of carbon-13;  
acquiring a total nuclear magnetic resonance measurement for all protons in the fluid sample;  
deriving a total hydrogen index from the total nuclear magnetic resonance measurement;  
and  
deriving the oil-to-water ratio of the fluid sample from the hydrocarbon content and the total hydrogen index.

**[c26]** The method of claim 25, wherein the nuclear magnetic resonance data set is obtained by subtracting a first proton nuclear magnetic resonance measurement acquired with a J-edit pulse sequence from a second proton nuclear magnetic resonance measurement acquired without a J-edit pulse sequence.

**[c27]** A nuclear magnetic resonance instrument, comprising:  
a housing adapted to move in a wellbore;  
a magnet disposed in the housing adapted to induce a static magnetic field in a zone of interest;  
an antenna assembly disposed in the housing, the antenna assembly adapted to induce an oscillating magnetic field in the zone of interest and to receive nuclear magnetic resonance signals; and  
an electronic module including a memory to store instructions for performing a J-edit pulse sequence.

**[c28]** The instrument of claim 27, wherein the housing is adapted to be lowered into the wellbore on an electric cable.

**[c29]** The instrument of claim 27, wherein the housing forms part of a drilling tool assembly.

**[c30]** The instrument of claim 27, wherein the housing forms part of a formation fluid sampling tool.